

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheet makes changes to Fig. 1 and replaces the original sheet with Fig. 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Claims 6, 8, 9 and 10-13 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Fig. 1 is corrected, claims 6, 8 and 9 are amended, and claims 1-5 and 7 are canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. No new matter is added.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Office Action's indication that claims 10-13 are allowed and that claims 6, 8 and 9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 6, 8 and 9 are amended accordingly and thus are allowable.

II. Figure 1 Satisfies All Formal Requirements

The Office Action objects to Fig.1. Specifically, the Office Action asserts that Fig.1 should be designated by a legend such as "Prior Art." By this Amendment, Fig. 1 is corrected to include the legend "Related Art." Withdrawal of the objection is thus respectfully requested.

III. The Outstanding Rejection is Moot

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,657,269 to Migliorato et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,411,727 to Harkin. This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1-5 and 7. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:RBI/tbh

Attachment:
Replacement Sheet (Fig. 1)

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